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PROCEEDINGS OF
THE PRESENTATION OF
THE WILLIAMSBURG AWARD TO
SIR WINSTON S. CHURCHILL



THE WILLIAMSBURG AWARD

"A SALUTE ACROSS TIME"



"This Town Crier's bell, symbol of the people's vigil, commemorates the presentation of The Williamsburg Award to the Rt. Hon. Sir Winston S. Churchill, K.G., O.M., C.H., M.P., for his unexampled contribution in our time to the historic struggle of men to live, free and self-respecting, in a just society."

Proceedings of the Presentation of
THE WILLIAMSBURG AWARD
By the Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg
To The Rt. Hon. Sir Winston S. Churchill
At Drapers' Hall, London,
December 7, 1955



COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

1957

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

WILLIAMSBURG was one of the most important ideological training grounds for the leaders of American independence. For eighty-one influential years (1699-1780) it was the capital of the Virginia Colony and a cultural and political center ranking with Boston, Newport, Philadelphia, Charleston and New York. Here George Washington, Patrick Henry, George Wythe, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason and other patriots helped shape the foundations of our government. It was the scene of Patrick Henry's Caesar-Brutus speech and his defiant Resolutions protesting the Stamp Act; George Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights; the May 15, 1776, Resolution for Independence, which led directly to the historic July 4 decision; the pioneering Virginia Constitution, which served as a model for most other states; and the introduction of Jefferson's famous Statute for Religious Freedom.

THE WILLIAMSBURG AWARD



AS PART of its program to bring new strength in our time to the belief in human liberty and the dignity of the individual which made Williamsburg and its leaders a moving force in eighteenth-century America, Colonial Williamsburg has established The Williamsburg Award.

The Award will be made, as occasion warrants, to a person who in the course of contemporary events has made an outstanding contribution to the historic struggle of men to live free and self-respecting in a just society. If circumstances require, it may be made jointly to two or more persons. It will carry an honorarium of \$10,000 and an appropriate emblem.

Clear and eminent achievement shall be the only criterion for eligibility. Recipients may be natives of any land, reside in any country, work at any occupation, be members of any race.

The Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg hope that The Williamsburg Award will serve not only as an honor to the recipients, but also as an encouragement to men and women everywhere to seek

liberty and justice for themselves and all men. The purpose of the Award is to serve as a continual reminder that there are today, as there were yesterday, vigorous, courageous and eloquent leaders.

THE TRUSTEES OF COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER, *Chairman*

KENNETH CHORLEY, *President*

HORACE M. ALBRIGHT	LEWIS S. POWELL, JR.
ARMISTEAD L. BOOTHE	WEBSTER RHOADS
HARVIE BRANSCOMB	H. M. STRYKER
HECTOR ESCOBOSA	VANDERBILT WEBB
WALLACE K. HARRISON	

Williamsburg, Virginia

October, 1955

“It is not a twentieth-century Williamsburg which speaks through The Williamsburg Award. This is a salute across time. It is great men . . . who speak across nearly two centuries to say to the recipients of this Award: You are of the great company.”



THE RT. HON. SIR WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, K.G., O.M., C.H., M.P.

THE FIRST RECIPIENT

“WHEN it came time to select the first recipient of the Williamsburg Award, it was our task to find ‘. . . a person who has influenced the course of national or world events significantly by expressing in sustained action or in eloquent and persuasive statement a belief in the liberty of the human spirit, in the rights of man, and in the value of the individual.’ And all roads led to one man.

“In the wonderful phrasing of his biographer, E. D. O’Brien, ‘. . . the long procession of Winston Churchill marched past.’ And there was never any question that he, more than any other living man, belonged to the great company of the defenders of liberty. No political leader in our time has given a braver example of resistance to tyranny and all encroachments on the rights of free men. None has fought harder – or more successfully – for the rights of the individual.”



THE PRESENTATION DINNER AT DRAPERS' HALL, LONDON

TOASTS

THE QUEEN

Proposed by His Excellency the Hon. Winthrop W. Aldrich, G.B.E.,
Ambassador of the United States of America to the Court of St. James's

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Proposed by the Rt. Hon. Sir Winston S. Churchill, K.G., O.M., C.H., M.P.



REMARKS

By Winthrop Rockefeller, Chairman of the Trustees

—
A Message from the President of the United States



RESPONSE

By the Rt. Hon. Sir Winston S. Churchill, K.G., O.M., C.H., M.P.



THE BLESSING

By the Very Reverend the Dean of Westminster

A. C. Don, K.C.V.O., D.D.



THE PRESENTATION ADDRESS

ADDRESS BY WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER

Chairman, The Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg

SIR WINSTON, HONORED GUESTS:

I am here this evening to speak for many people.

I speak first for the Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg.

I speak for old friends of our honored guest – some of whom have been proud to come from far away to meet again with a comrade in arms.

I speak for millions of Americans who love and honor Sir Winston Churchill.

In the presence of the ambassadors of other nations, I hope that I may speak also for their countrymen who have fought and are fighting for a world of freedom, justice and honor.

Above all, I believe that I speak for the spirit of those men of eighteenth-century Williamsburg, who are the real creators of the Williamsburg Award.

Williamsburg is almost as old as the English colonization of North America. In 1633, it was built north of Jamestown between the York and the James Rivers in the vast colony of Virginia. In 1699 it became the capital of the colony and was named Williamsburg after William the Third.

For eighty-one years – from 1699 to 1780 – it was the political and cultural center of the largest and, in many respects, the most influential of the British colonies.

When the American dream of freedom and independence was taking form, Williamsburg provided one of the most important intellectual training grounds for the leaders in that struggle.

As the drive for independence became a reality, Williamsburg was the scene of the enactment of the Virginia Resolution, which led to the Declaration of Independence.

There the forerunner of the American Bill of Rights was written by George Mason and adopted by the legislature.

There a company of brilliant and courageous men proclaimed the rights of man in words and deeds no one who loves liberty can ever forget.

Fifty years ago, the Rector of Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg – a deeply thoughtful man – dreamed of restoring the historic city. Many years later he told my father of that dream.

My father, immediately impressed with the spiritual significance of this colonial capital, became deeply interested in its preservation.

He came to believe that if the city could be brought back to life – if the environment of the eighteenth century could be recreated – living Americans would better understand the lives and times of the men who there helped build our nation, and would appreciate more fully the nature and the meaning of the contribution they made to our country. He, therefore, determined to begin the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg.

It was a project to which he was to be increasingly drawn over the years, and to which he was to give of himself without stint. That the lost city should be reborn to speak for itself was his special objective.

Now, almost thirty years later, the work is still not finished, but eighteenth-century Williamsburg again stands much as it stood in the days of its greatness.

Since the restoration began to take shape, seven million Americans have visited Colonial Williamsburg and it has drawn visitors from eighty foreign countries. People of all ages, nations, creeds, and races are coming in increasing numbers.

No more gracious visitor, I may say, has ever visited Williamsburg than Her Majesty, the Queen Mother, who a year ago became the first member of the royal family ever to visit the city where British governors once lived and ruled a Crown Colony. Sitting – by her own wish – in the pew once occupied by George Washington, she worshipped in Bruton Parish Church. Never was Williamsburg more completely devoted to a King or Queen. (Never, I think, was our independence in greater jeopardy since the 1770's.)

Today the people who come to Williamsburg from many lands and many walks of life are drawn by something far more than curiosity. Perhaps what they find was best expressed by a young American soldier during the second World War. In a greatly cherished letter to my father, he wrote:

"This visit made me realize the heritage and rich gifts of our country. Of all the sights I have seen, and the books I have read, and the speeches I have heard, none ever made me see the greatness of this country with more force and clearness than when I saw Williamsburg slumbering peacefully on its old foundations . . .

"As a soldier in the United States Army, I am proud to have set foot on such grand old soil. More than ever it has made me live in the daily hope that by facing the future together, we shall all survive it together, both as a united nation and as free men."

The lessons taught by the lives of the men of eighteenth-century Williamsburg are timeless. They remind us, among other things, that there is a fellowship of free men – a comradeship of courage – that is not contained within the borders of any land or within the limits of any time. The example of the men of eighteenth-century Williamsburg speaks across the ages to the perilous present – not only to Americans but to all men who love liberty. We today take heart and comfort from the courage and steadfastness of our forebears.

It was with this realization that the Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg conceived the Williamsburg Award. It intends to be an honor. But more than that it intends to make all men, wherever they may be, aware that there is such a fellowship – that it extends down the ages – that it reaches across every boundary of race, creed and geography.

It is hoped, then, that this Award will serve as a continual reminder that there are today, as there were yesterday, vigorous, courageous and intelligent leaders – that he who defends liberty and justice anywhere defends it everywhere.

It is not a twentieth-century Williamsburg which speaks through The Williamsburg Award. This is a salute across time. It is great

men – of your blood and ours – who speak across nearly two centuries to say to the recipients of this Award:

“You are of the great company.”

When it came time to select the first recipient of The Williamsburg Award, it was our task to find “a person who has influenced the course of national or world events significantly by expressing in sustained action or in eloquent and persuasive statement a belief in the liberty of the human spirit, in the rights of man, and in the value of the individual.” And all roads led to one man.

In the wonderful phrasing of his biographer, E. D. O’Brien, “. . . the long procession of Winston Churchill marched past.” And there was never any question that he, more than any other living man, belonged to the great company of the defenders of liberty. No political leader in our time has given a braver example of resistance to tyranny and all encroachments on the rights of free men. None has fought harder – or more successfully – for the rights of the individual. None has done more to preserve and extend Anglo-American friendship which was strong in the hearts of many men of eighteenth-century Williamsburg even when they broke with their mother country.

I will not try to offer any further citation. Sir Winston needs none. He, the symbol of a free world in time of terrible danger, his eloquent words ring in the hearts of men around the globe. By his words and actions, he has written a finer citation than any that could be written for him.

There is, however, one message which comes – not across two centuries but across three thousand miles of water. It is from Gettysburg. It reads:

“It is most fitting that the first Williamsburg Award should be made to Sir Winston Churchill – an Award which bears the name of the one-time capital of the great Virginia Colony, and which re-awakens memories of the fearless men of eighteenth-century America. The cause of freedom was the cause of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Patrick Henry, and others who once walked the streets of the historic capital. In our time, no man has given more to that cause than Sir Winston. With

all who honor him, I join in extending to him heartiest congratulations and warmest regards. Sincerely, Dwight D. Eisenhower.”

Sir Winston, I am honored to present to you – in the presence of this distinguished audience – the first Williamsburg Award. The symbol of it is a town crier’s bell – made at Colonial Williamsburg by artisans, as such bells were made in the days of our forefathers.

On it have been inscribed these words:

“This bell, symbol of the people’s vigil, commemorates the presentation of The Williamsburg Award to Sir Winston Spencer Churchill, K.G., O.M., C.H., M.P., for his unexampled contribution in our time to the historic struggle of men to live, free and self-respecting, in a just society. The Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg. December 7, 1955.”





SIR WINSTON RESPONDS

RESPONSE BY SIR WINSTON S. CHURCHILL

MY LORDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

You are the . . . (*laughter*) . . . I beg your pardon. We'll leave out the ladies. I am honored by the Award which the Williamsburg Trustees have made to me and am glad indeed to be the first to receive it.

I saw for myself nine years ago the wonderful memorial which Mr. Rockefeller's father has raised to the history of the United States and the link that he has provided with the past. No more fascinating link exists of a vanished world embodying early doubts, the grace and the ease, and the charm of by-gone colonial days.

I am also profoundly touched by the personal kindness which has led so many Americans – when I was unable to go to them – to come over here and give this truly remarkable dinner in the Drapers' Hall.

In this memorable event is a proof, if proof were needed, of the unity of thought and sentiment which is coming to be between us during this tragic century and which, I venture to say, carefully considering and picking my words, is the most important thing in the world.

The horizons of life are dark and confused but I think that most of us here have the sort of feeling that we shall not go far wrong if we keep together. I am very glad to learn that Sir Anthony Eden and the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Harold Macmillan, whom we are all so glad to see here tonight, are going over in the New Year for another talk about all those stark and difficult matters in which our common interests are involved. They will talk about them on foundations strong and ever growing stronger and which I venture to say will never be broken by force or by the threat of force.

Colonial Williamsburg has added a new element to our state of unity. The Award and the conception which Mr. Rockefeller's father



embraced transcends the bounds of race, creed and geography and brings the whole free world within its sphere. The choice is world wide. This in my view constitutes the strength of its appeal, and the fact that you should give your first Award to one who is a British subject establishes an even higher and wider level than those bounded by nationality.

I am, however, by blood, half American, and on my mother's side I have the right to enjoy the early memories of Colonial Williamsburg as much as anyone here. I delight in my American ancestry which gave me in five generations a claim to membership of several celebrated historical institutions across the Atlantic Ocean. Jerome Park knows at least that my grandfather was interested in horse racing!

It gave me extreme pleasure to hear you read the message of President Eisenhower sent on this occasion. He is a great friend of mine. For the last fourteen years we have worked together and it was but a week ago that I had the honor to receive from him the medallion which bore the imprint of a picture painted with his own hand. I haven't reached the conclusion of my correspondence with him upon this subject!

This message tonight comes from Gettysburg and there we have one of those famous names which teach us to forget and forgive as well as to remember the great events of military history. I have gone all



over the United States in pursuit of the battlefields and think there is only one, one campaign, that I have not investigated. I must say that Gettysburg stands out as a great, outstanding event in the history of the United States and that those who fought there on either side so valiantly may well cherish it, as if it were a joint possession.

The Trustees of Williamsburg have brought with them distinguished guests. Mr. Baruch, Mr. Harriman, General Marshall and General Bedell Smith were prevented at the last moment from joining our company tonight and I very much regret it. I am very glad, however, that we have Admiral "Betty" Stark, and Mr. Lew Douglas, who worked so tirelessly for better Anglo-American unity and General Al Gruenther, NATO Supreme Allied Commander in Europe. My own British friends, comrades and colleagues, are too numerous for me to attempt to mention. I can only express my gratitude to them that they should be here tonight. It has been an occasion that I shall never forget.

Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller, you have presented to me a Town Crier's Bell as it was made at your Colonial Williamsburg in the days of our forefathers. It was made quite recently but by the same methods and under the same conditions. The words you have inscribed upon it are inspiring. Its silver tone is gentle and I shall ring it, I can assure you, whenever I feel there is duty to be done.



SIR WINSTON, MR. ROCKEFELLER AND MR. CHORLEY LEAVE THE HALL

THE GUESTS

The Presentation of the First Williamsburg Award to

Sir Winston S. Churchill

At Drapers' Hall, London, December 7, 1955



*SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL AND THE TRUSTEES
OF COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG*

THE GUESTS

The Rt. Hon. Sir Winston S. Churchill, K.G., O.M., C.H., M.P.

Mr. Alderman Cuthbert Ackroyd, *The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of London*

Herbert S. Agar, Esquire

Field Marshal The Viscount Alanbrooke

Field Marshal The Earl Alexander of Tunis

Commodore G. R. G. Allen

Mr. Sheriff W. G. Allen

Horace M. Albright, Esquire

His Excellency The Hon. Winthrop W. Aldrich

Julian Amery, Esquire

The Rt. Hon. Clement R. Attlee

The Lord Baillieu

The Hon. Walworth Barbour

Lucius D. Battle, Esquire

Alexander Bell, Esquire

Guy H. Benson, Esquire

The Hon. Michael Berry

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Bessborough

The Most Hon. The Marquess of Blandford

The Hon. Armistead L. Boothe

William T. Boston, Esquire

The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Bracken

Dr. Harvie Branscomb

The Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Bridges

Winthrop G. Brown, Esquire

Antony Montague Browne, Esquire

The Hon. Alastair F. Buchan

Donald Burke, Esquire



*Mr. Attlee,
Viscount Montgomery
and General Gruenther*

The Rt. Hon. Sir Alexander Cadogan
 Nicholas Carroll, Esquire
 Sir Christopher Chancellor
 Admiral Alvin D. Chandler, U.S.N. (Retired)
 The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Chandos
 Captain W. R. Chaplin
 Colonel The Hon. Martin Charteris
 His Excellency Monsieur Jean Chauvel
 The Rt. Hon. The Lord Cherwell
 Arthur Christiansen, Esquire
 Kenneth Chorley, Esquire
 Randolph Churchill, Esquire
 T. Fife Clark, Esquire
 William Clark, Esquire
 His Excellency Monsieur André Clasen
 The Reverend Philip Thomas Byard Clayton
 William Codrington, Esquire
 John Colville, Esquire
 W. Bradley Connors, Esquire
 Captain Colin R. Coote
 His Excellency Sir Claude Corea
 Geoffrey Cox, Esquire
 The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres
 Norman S. Cursley, Esquire
 W. Surrey Dane, Esquire
 Frank Angley Darvall, Esquire
 Blevins Davis, Esquire
 Colonel Colin Davy
 Captain Oliver Dawnay
 Colonel F. W. Deakin



*Admiral Harold B. Stark
 and Admiral Alvin D. Chandler*

*Lord Tedder and
Viscount Alanbrooke*



The Rt. Hon. The Earl De La Warr
Major-General William Alfred Dimoline
Arthur Douglas Dodds-Parker, Esquire
The Most Hon. The Marquess of Donegall
The Hon. Lewis W. Douglas
The Most Hon. The Marquess of Douro
The Very Reverend Alan Campbell Don
The Viscount Duncannon
R. A. Dunwoody, Esquire

Charles Eade, Esquire
Arthur H. Elliot, Esquire
Air Chief Marshal Sir William Elliot
Sir Howard d'Egville
Hector Escobosa, Esquire
The Viscount Esher
The Rt. Hon. Sir Raymond Evershed

H. Farmar, Esquire
Walter Farr, Esquire
Desmond Flower, Esquire
Dingle M. Foot, Esquire
Major Edward W. S. Ford
Andrew B. Foster, Esquire

Lieutenant-General Sir Humfrey Myddelton Gale
Eddy Gilmore, Esquire
Anthony Joseph Gishford, Esquire
Brigadier-General Ralph S. Glasgow
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Goddard
Colonel Brian S. Gooch



*Mayor Stryker and
Lord Ironside*

Professor Arthur Lehman Goodhart
A. Goodinge, Esquire
The Lord Adam Gordon
The Viscount Gort
The Rt. Hon. Sir Percy James Grigg
General Alfred E. Gruenther, U.S.A.

Robert A. Haeger, Esquire
The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Halifax
Geoffrey Harmsworth, Esquire
Henry Hayward, Esquire
The Rt. Hon. Anthony Head
Sir Philip Hendy
General Sir Leslie Hollis
Carlisle H. Humelsine, Esquire
William Humphreys, Esquire

Field Marshal The Lord Ironside
General The Lord Ismay

Sir Ian Jacob
Bradford Jacobs, Esquire
Sir Archibald Jamieson
Sir John Whitworth Jones
His Excellency Monsieur Agnar Kl. Jonsson
His Excellency Mr. Gerhardus Petrus Jooste

Ronald Kelly, Esquire
The Viscount Kemsley
Sir Thomas D. Kendrick
The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Kilmuir

*Mr. Selwyn Lloyd,
Mr. Duncan Sandys and
Earl Alexander*



Cecil Harmsworth King, Esquire
F. Geoffrey King, Esquire
Michael King, Esquire
The Viscount Knollys
His Excellency Mr. Mohammed I. Kramullah

The Rt. Hon. Sir Alan Lascelles
Evelyn Godfrey Lawford, Esquire
The Lord Layton
The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Leathers
The Rt. Hon. A. T. Lennox-Boyd
The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Listowel
The Rt. Hon. Selwyn Lloyd
Major John Gilbert Lockhart
Sir Denys Lowson
Robert Lubar, Esquire
The Lord Luke of Pavenham
Rear-Admiral Charles H. Lyman III, U.S.N.

The Rt. Hon. John S. Maclay
The Rt. Hon. Harold Macmillan
J. V. MacNair, Esquire
Sir James Mann
Derek Marks, Esquire
Sir John Martin
E. K. Meade, Jr., Esquire
Drew Middleton, Esquire
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Milner of Leeds
James Moffett, Esquire
Anthony F. Moir, Esquire
Kenneth Macrae Moir, Esquire

The Rt. Hon. Sir Walter Monckton
Field Marshal The Viscount Montgomery of Alamein
Major Lionel Arthur Noel Morris
Major Sir Desmond Morton

Professor Arthur Newell
Yale Newman, Esquire

Fred L. Palmer, Esquire
Eugene Patterson, Esquire
John M. Patterson, Esquire
David Bruce Pitblado, Esquire
John C. Pool, Esquire
Dwight Porter, Esquire
Lewis S. Powell, Jr., Esquire

J. F. W. Rathbone, Esquire
A. M. Rendel, Esquire
Sandford Rendle, Esquire
Webster Rhoads, Esquire
His Excellency Dr. J. F. Ritter
His Excellency Mr. Norman A. Robertson
Winthrop Rockefeller, Esquire
Sir Ronald Ross
J. R. Ruffin, Esquire
Sir Anthony Rumbold
John Russell, Esquire

The Most Hon. The Marquess of Salisbury
The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Samuel
The Rt. Hon. Duncan Sandys
Laurence Prestwich Scott, Esquire
Richard Scott, Esquire



*Lord Ironside and
Viscount Trenchard*

*Sir Walter Monckton
and Ambassador Aldrich*



The Rt. Hon. Sir Hartley Shawcross
 Martin Simmons, Esquire
 Charles A. Smith, Esquire
 Howard K. Smith, Esquire
 Captain Christopher Soames
 Richard Southern, Esquire
 Major-General Sir Edward Spears
 The Earl Spencer
 D. R. Spendlove, Esquire
 Admiral Harold B. Stark, U.S.N.
 His Excellency Monsieur Vincens de Steensen-Leth
 Brigadier-General John M. Sterling, U.S.A.F.
 Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Albert Stern
 Andrew Stewart, Esquire
 Whitney W. Straight, Esquire
 Dr. H. M. Stryker
 Sir Campbell Stuart
 The Rt. Hon. James Gray Stuart
 The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Swinton
 Marshal of the Royal Air Force The Lord Tedder
 Morton G. Thalhimer, Esquire
 His Excellency Senhor Pedro Theotonio Pereira
 The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Thurso
 Marshal of the Royal Air Force The Viscount Trenchard
 Arthur Veysey, Esquire
 Rex Wailes, Esquire
 Mr. Alderman and Sheriff B. N. Waley-Cohen
 A. G. Wareham, Esquire

The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Waverley
His Excellency The Hon. T. Clifton Webb
Vanderbilt Webb, Esquire
Lowell Weicker, Esquire
Romney Wheeler, Esquire
His Excellency The Hon. Sir Thomas White
Arthur Williamson, Esquire
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Wilmot of Selmeston
The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Woolton
Hugo Wortham, Esquire
His Excellency Signor Vittorio Zoppi



APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

Sunday, December 4, 1955

DIVINE SERVICE AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY

TEXT OF SERMON BY THE REVEREND CANON S. J. MARRIOTT

On Sunday, December 4th, the Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg attended Divine Service at Westminster Abbey by invitation. They were warmly welcomed by the Very Reverend Canon S. J. Marriott, who spoke on The Williamsburg Award in his sermon, the text of which follows:

"On behalf of the Dean and Chapter, I have the pleasure of welcoming this morning a delegation of gentlemen from the United States who have come here to share in our worship. They are in this country on the business of the Williamsburg Award, of which they are the Trustees. Put shortly, the story is this: from 1700 to 1780 Williamsburg was the Capital of Virginia – a colony famous among other things as the birthplace of two outstanding figures in American history; namely, George Washington, its first president, and Thomas Jefferson, the third.

"But the main claim of Virginia to importance in American history lies not merely in its famous sons, nor in the fact that it was the first permanent colonial settlement in North America, but in the political constitution which it drew up for the governance of the colony.

"That constitution was essentially democratic, remarkably in advance of its day, for it aimed at universal suffrage, proportional representation, and religious freedom; in 1776 universal suffrage was indeed an advance in democracy. Now it is in this field that the colony of Virginia exercised a marked influence upon the future history of America. For not only did other colonies tend to follow the lead they had given, but the constitution of the United States of America itself is to a considerable extent based upon their labours.

"The two ideals which guided those early legislators were Freedom and Justice, and it is with them that the Williamsburg Award is concerned. That Award is of recent foundation, not an annual one, but one 'which shall be made as occasion warrants to a person who, in the course of contemporary events, has made an outstanding contribution to the historic struggle of men to live free and self-respecting in a just society. . . . Recipients may be of any land, reside in any country, work at any occupation, be members of any race.'

"The Trustees present with us this morning are in this country to make the first Award: They have chosen as the first recipient, Sir Winston Churchill.

"It is a choice which gives the greatest pleasure to us all, and which will tend to strengthen yet further the bonds that unite our two countries, upon whom the cause of freedom depends.

"Now this leads me to say a word about freedom, which is the crucial issue in the world today. There are two facts concerning it which every true lover of liberty should bear in mind.

"The first is this, that the freedom of man depends upon the existence of God. Some people will deny that and maintain instead that it is based on the principle

that all men are equal. All men are *not* equal – either in physical strength or in intellectual power, in scientific ability or manual dexterity, in personal attraction or personal influence – in all these and in other respects they differ enormously.

“No! The basis and justification of man’s claim to freedom lies in the equal potential value of every soul to God. Here, birth and position, wealth and ability, are not the standards of judgment, but solely *the worth to God of a man as a man*. For which reason, when God is dismissed as a myth and atheism rules instead, man has no final court of appeal in defense of his freedom.

“If when ordered to do some brutal things, such as to subject a fellow citizen to brain-washing or torture, the man rebels and says ‘my conscience in the sight of God will not allow me to inflict such cruelty on a fellow man,’ he is reminded that he is talking in terms of an exploded bourgeois philosophy. There is no God. The final court of appeal is the State, the State alone. And that is logical, if there be no God.

“I mention this because there are many people who hate the complete nationalization and iron State control which Marxian communism establishes, but who do not worry about its atheism; because to them religion or irreligion are not matters of importance, but only matters of opinion. They worry about the fruits of communism, not about its roots. That is silly. You cannot stop a tree bearing its fruits except by destroying its roots.

“Naturally therefore communism continues to spread in this country and elsewhere, because the counter-propaganda is aimed at a subsidiary target. It would be well if more people noted the fact that more energy, passion and devotion are being given to a philosophy which bids fair to destroy the world, than is being given to Him who alone can save it.

“The more religion declines in the democracies, the weaker will be the driving force behind the cause of freedom: because that freedom has its roots in God.

“Secondly, true freedom is only attainable when man exercises his gift of it within the confines set by the moral law, in which God’s will is expressed. When used outside that, it results in license – and Judgment follows.

“In this season of Advent the subjects which the Church puts before our minds are the Second Coming of our Lord and the Last Judgment. And however much the modern mind may dismiss the Last Judgment as a myth, I do not see how it can avoid the truth of present judgment; for it is going on in the lives of men and nations every day. Here, for example, is a man who uses his freedom to satiate his desire for money, or drink, or sin. What is the result? He becomes the slave of the habits in which he indulges, and finds later on that he cannot break them. And since, if our Lord is to be believed, acts in this life carry consequences hereafter, he is thereby fixing his eternal destiny, and he cannot get out of that. For though we are all free to choose to do what we like, we are not free to choose the consequences, because they are fixed by the moral order. Thereby comes our judgment. Or apply it to the life of a nation, though in that connection we usually speak of a crisis, rather than of a judgment. But the word ‘crisis’ is the noun from the Greek verb ‘krino,’ to judge, and means ‘judgment.’ We as a people believe strongly in the freedom of the press: but are there not papers in this country which use that freedom to appeal to the lowest instincts of the crowd? To sex, to gambling, to glamour, to love of sensation. Are not our children being fed on horror comics and other such literature, which can do nothing but debase their minds and degrade their characters? And since the moral and physical health of a nation is its greatest asset and the source of its strength, is there not bound to be a crisis, a judgment, in our national life someday?

“Degenerate nations do not survive.

“Again, being a democracy we believe that every man should be free to better himself, which means to better his position. Yet one of the most disturbing features in the life of the nation today, is that masses of people lay stress on their rights and not on their duties. Their object is to get the maximum they can out of the common pool, rather than to contribute their maximum to the common good. As a result economic difficulties appear, rising prices and so on and we find ourselves approaching an economic crisis, a judgment on our ways of life.

“Finally, notice that this applies even to so large a unit as a civilization: a fact to which history bears incontestable witness. The dominant forces and the main interest in our world today center around science and economics. By the marvellous discoveries of science and their application to engineering and to power production (from electricity, from oil, and now from nuclear fusion) world production is going up and up and with it world wealth: it is the distribution of that wealth which brings economics to the fore. The result is that man today has more comfort, more leisure, and more pleasure than at any time in his past history. I do not know that God has any objection to that. And yet it is certain that God’s intention in creating man was that, through the development of his potential powers of goodness, he might ascend from life in this world to eternal life with Himself. His purpose was that man should become better, and not necessarily better off. His object was moral – spiritual, not material.

“If therefore man uses his freedom to seek material prosperity, irrespective of his moral and spiritual development, it is obvious that he has stepped outside the range of God’s moral order and must face the consequences.

“If the atomic bomb is a signal example of man’s scientific ability, no less is his inability to produce a world in which it is not required as proof of his moral incapacity. Indeed it affords a striking contrast between the intellectual strength and the moral weakness in modern man.

“In a Christian world atomic power would be harmless: but not in the world as it is today.

“Moreover, if you make the increase of world production and of world wealth the main objectives of life, then the struggle for a full share of that wealth, both between classes and between nations, is inevitable.

“In other words, war is implicit in the principle from which you started. So we have had already two World Wars and the situation in the international world today is regarded by many as becoming critical, i.e., judgmental. Consequently, the greatest need of the world and the greatest hope for the world lies in a deep and sincere moral and spiritual awakening, in this country and in America. An awakening which, by increasing mutual trust, genuine friendship, and a deep-seated faith in God, in both their peoples, will make a better world in the only way by which a better world can be made.

“On such a world no judgment will fall, because its purposes lie within the range of God’s loving will. Pray God the day of that awakening may come in time.”

APPENDIX II

Monday, December 5, 1955

LUNCHEON AT THE MANSION HOUSE

TEXT OF AN ADDRESS BY CUTHBERT LOWELL ACKROYD
THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON

The Lord Mayor of London and the Lady Mayoress entertained the Trustees and their guests at a formal luncheon at the Mansion House on December 5th.

The following is the address of the Lord Mayor:

"The Lady Mayoress and I welcome to the Mansion House, and to the City of London today, His Excellency The American Ambassador, and some very distinguished fellow-citizens of his, who are identified with one of the most fascinating and unusual enterprises of our time – Colonial Williamsburg.

"I think I am right, Mr. Ambassador, in saying that from the end of the seventeenth to the latter part of the eighteenth century, Williamsburg was the Capital of Virginia; and that Williamsburg was chosen by destiny to play an immortal part in American history – to be, in fact, the cradle of American Independence.

"Time and time again, when the great names associated with that cause – Patrick Henry, George Mason, Thomas Jefferson and George Washington – took the great decisions, and made the great speeches which have shaped the course of American history, it was from this charming, quiet, modest little City of the South that the thunderbolt of their eloquence was hurled.

"With a flash of their own particular imagination and genius, which is at once idealistic and practical, and meticulously correct, America has produced a great Memorial.

"Under the inspiration and, I believe, greatly helped by the personal generosity of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., the little town has been not so much preserved as re-created, and we welcome today his son, Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller, your Chairman.

"I would have liked so much during my year of Office as Lord Mayor of London, to have welcomed his father, that great American, whose name is a household word through Christendom, and who has shown what great wealth, properly distributed, can do for mankind. The outstanding services of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to humanity mark him as one of the world's greatest philanthropists.

"I welcome the Board of Trustees here today, and congratulate them upon their great effort – and here I quote – 'to bring about such an understanding of the life and time of the eighteenth-century men and women of Williamsburg, so that present and future generations may appreciate the contributions of these early Americans to the ideals and culture of their country.' With what success they have achieved this object can be gauged by the fact that, since 1926, seven and a half million people have visited that City.

"May I at this point, Mr. Ambassador, say how much this visit of Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller, accompanied by his distinguished President Mr. Kenneth Chorley, and his brother Trustees, is appreciated, and also how happy I am to welcome his Worship the Mayor of Williamsburg who has, I believe, like me, just a few responsibilities in his own City.

"Williamsburg, like this City of London, has behind it a spiritual and moral meaning – 'that the future may learn from the past' – and to give this effect, Williamsburg has decided to make, from time to time, an award to people who have made an outstanding contribution to this cause of democratic liberty – people who have signally upheld the dignity and the right of common humanity.

"In entertaining Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller and his colleagues, and you, Mr. Ambassador, today, we in the City of London wish to do two things – first to welcome you for your own sakes, in admiration of the vision, and the tremendous carry-through, which has made Colonial Williamsburg a unique achievement – and secondly to express our appreciation of your generous gesture of good will, by making your first award to Sir Winston Churchill, and through him, to the people of this country, of whom he was for so many fateful years, the great and inspired Leader.

"With the help of religion, and with the warp of integrity, and the weft of fine craftsmanship, and the golden thread of friendship, the ancient Guilds of London have woven a tapestry which has lasted for a thousand years.

"It is my earnest belief that, with the same materials and the same ideals which you possess, Colonial Williamsburg will maintain and uphold a similar fabric for a thousand years to come.

"My Lady Mayoress and Gentlemen – I give you the Toast of the Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg, coupled with the names of Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller, your Chairman, and Mr. Kenneth Chorley, your President, both of whom I know are enthusiastic in their work for Williamsburg and for the abiding friendship between our two peoples."

Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller, Chairman of the Trustees, Mr. Kenneth Chorley, President of Colonial Williamsburg, and Dr. H. M. Stryker, the Mayor of Williamsburg, responded informally to the Lord Mayor's address.

Dr. H. M. Stryker, the Mayor of Williamsburg, presented a Resolution "conveying the greetings of the City of Williamsburg, Virginia, to the City of London, England," and he then presented to the Lord Mayor of London a silver tankard engraved with the coat of arms of Virginia and bearing the inscription, "Presented to the City of London by the City of Williamsburg, Virginia, December 1955."

A RESOLUTION

*Conveying the Greetings of the City of Williamsburg,
Virginia to the City of London, England.*

WHEREAS, Great Britain and the United States of America share a proud and ancient heritage; and

WHEREAS, the City of Williamsburg, Virginia, was long the capital of the British Crown Colony of Virginia, the largest and most populous of the Crown Colonies in the New World; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of eighteenth century Williamsburg, mindful of an association which began with the London Company and colonization, held the ancient City of London in respect and affection; and

WHEREAS, the deep ties which then linked the City of London to Williamsburg have continued strong despite geographic distance and the passage of time; and

WHEREAS, the City of Williamsburg now proudly reaffirms its time honored bond with the City of London and takes notice of the relationship between the two municipalities - - one still the metropolis of the British Empire, the other still deeply conscious of its historic role;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor of Williamsburg be commanded to present this resolution to the Lord Mayor of London as evidence of the high esteem in which the people of Williamsburg continue to hold the City of London.



Dr. Henry W. Stryker, Mayor
Lynd H. Williams, Vice-Mayor
Vincent D. McManus, Councilman
G. Houston Butts, Councilman
Wm. L. O. Dutt, Councilman



Ackroyd, Mayor.

*A Common Council holden in
the Guildhall of the City of
London, on Thursday, the
15th day of December, 1955.*

Resolved Ananimously :

THAT the Members of the Court of
Common Council of the City of London have
received with much pleasure the Resolution
of Greeting from the City of Williamsburg,
Virginia, and they gladly accept this oppor-
tunity of reciprocating most heartily the sentiments
expressed therein.

THE Citizens of London recall with
pride and satisfaction the historic association
which links the two Cities, and they trust that
the visit to this country of the Mayor of Colonial
Williamsburg may be the means of strengthening
still further the bonds of friendship between Great
Britain and the United States of America.

E. H. Nichols

Town Clerk.

APPENDIX III

Monday, December 5, 1955

RECEPTION AT BLEWCOAT SCHOOL, WESTMINSTER

BY THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR PLACES OF HISTORIC INTEREST
OR NATURAL BEAUTY

The Viscount and Viscountess Esher and the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty held a reception for the Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg at Blewcoat School on December 5th. The Trustees had the pleasure of meeting many of those responsible for Great Britain's splendid work in historic preservation and conservation. Among those who were invited to the reception were the following:

Lord and Lady Aberconway
Ambassador and Mrs. Winthrop W. Aldrich
The Earl and Countess of Antrim
The Viscount and Viscountess Astor
Mr. P. K. Baillie-Reynolds
Lord and Lady Baillieu
The Rt. Hon. Nigel Birch and Mrs. Birch
Professor Anthony Blunt
The Hon. David and Mrs. Bowes-Lyon
Sir Edward and Lady Bridges
Colonel and Mrs. E. N. Buxton
Lord and Lady Chorley
Lord and Lady Conesford
The Rt. Hon. Dr. Hugh Dalton and Mrs. Dalton
Sir John and Lady Dashwood
The Earl and Countess De La Warr
Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Edbrooke
Sir Robert and Lady Ensor
The Viscount and Viscountess Esher
The Earl and Countess of Euston
Sir Robert and Lady Ewbank
Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Fedden
The Earl and Countess Fortescue
Miss D. Grant
Mr. I. A. Grant
The Viscount and Viscountess Gort
Sir William and Lady Haley
The Dowager Lady Hesketh
Mr. E. Holland-Martin
Miss D. Hunter

Lord and Lady Kilmaine
Sir Norman and Lady Kinnear
Sir Alan and the Hon. Lady Lascelles
Mr. and Mrs. James Lee-Milne
Sir James and Lady Mann
Mr. and Mrs. Donald McCullough
Admiral the Hon. Sir Herbert and Lady Meade-Fetherstonhaugh
Lord and Lady Merthyr
Sir Philip and Lady Nichols
The Hon. Sir Harold and the Hon. Lady Nicolson
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Norman
The Earl and Countess of Onslow
The Hon. David and Mrs. Ormsby Gore
Mr. J. F. W. Rathbone
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Robinson
The Earl and Countess of Rosse
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony de Rothschild
The Countess of St. Germans
Mr. and Mrs. W. Scott Elliot
Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Scott
Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Smith
Mr. and Mrs. John Smith
The Earl and Countess Spencer
Mr. and Mrs. John Summerson
Mr. Michael Tree and Lady Anne Tree
Mr. and Mrs. C. Wallace
His Grace The Duke of Wellington
The Earl and Countess of Wemyss
The Hon. Rowland and Mrs. Winn
Mr. and Mrs. John Wyndham

APPENDIX IV

Tuesday, December 6, 1955

RECEPTION AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY

REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE WINTHROP W. ALDRICH
UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES

Ambassador and Mrs. Winthrop Aldrich held a reception in honor of the Trustees and their guests at the American Embassy on December 6th.

The following are the Ambassador's remarks:

"It is a great pleasure for Mrs. Aldrich and myself to welcome the Williamsburg Trustees to London and to have you as our guests today in our home.

"Though this is strictly an informal occasion, and I have no intention of making a speech, I do want to say this. I am tremendously gratified that you chose Sir Winston Churchill to be the recipient of the first Williamsburg Award. You have made a great and significant contribution to Anglo-American relations by your action, for Sir Winston symbolizes to the peoples of both Britain and our own country the deep friendship between us and the overwhelming importance of preserving that friendship and continuing to pull closely together in the difficult times that we face. The manner in which you have arranged this presentation has been most impressive and memorable, and nothing but good can come of it. I have also been gratified at the graceful British response to this Award to Sir Winston and the wonderful way in which they have contributed to the success of this occasion."

APPENDIX V

Wednesday, December 7, 1955

RECEPTION BY THE MASTER, WARDENS AND CLERK OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF DRAPERS

REMARKS BY MR. ALEXANDER J. BELL, MASTER OF THE COMPANY

On the evening of December 7th, the Master, Wardens and Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Drapers received the Trustees and their guests in the Master's Chambers at Drapers' Hall. Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller expressed the deep appreciation of the Trustees for the Company's generous loan of its historic Hall for the dinner and the presentation ceremonies. On behalf of Colonial Williamsburg, he presented to Mr. Alexander J. Bell, Master of the Company, a silver miniature of the symbolic Town Crier's Bell which was to be presented to Sir Winston. In accepting this token of appreciation, the Master said,

"Mr. Chairman, Mr. President, and Trustees:

"It seems to me that it is not for you to thank the Drapers' Company so much as for the Drapers' Company to thank you for not only giving the Wardens and myself a dinner which, from the descriptions I have heard, is likely to be an outstanding banquet in the City's history, but also for commemorating the occasion by giving the Company a copy of your historic Town Crier's Bell. Whatever my shortcomings otherwise may be as Master, you could scarcely have chosen a more appropriate one out of the 516 men who have served the office because it happens that I am the first to be called Bell. I can assure you that this beautiful piece of silver will always be cherished as what we call in our Court Minutes 'a beautiful and valuable addition to the Company's plate.'

"The Wardens and I would have liked to have a chance to entertain you at a meal, and we are so sorry that your other commitments while in London have rendered this impossible.

"I may perhaps end by saying how happy we feel to renew a very ancient link with Virginia. It is a long time since the Company – rather reluctantly, I may say – were induced to subscribe £150 towards the colonization of Virginia, which, it seems to me, was rather a small subscription even for 1609. Old as they are, Williamsburg and the Drapers' Company are living and flourishing entities, and now that we have renewed our association I hope that it too will continue to flourish."



*At a Court of Assistants of the Drapers' Company
held at Drapers' Hall on Thursday, 15th December, 1900.*

*The Master reports that he, with the
Wardens and the Clerk, dined with the Trustees
of Colonial Williamsburg on the 7th December,
being the occasion on which the Trustees
presented Sir Winston Churchill with the
first Williamsburg Award and that before
dinner the Trustees, in recognition of
the Company's lending the Hall for the
occasion, presented the Company with
a silver replica of the Town Crier's
Bell which formed part of the Award.
Resolved that the best thanks of the
Court be conveyed to the Trustees for
this valuable and interesting addition
to the Company's Plate.*

Hugh Farmer

Clerk to the Drapers' Company.

APPENDIX VI

TWO REPORTS OF THE FIRST PRESENTATION OF THE WILLIAMSBURG AWARD

Two contemporary accounts of the presentation, one by a British radio commentator and one by an American foreign correspondent, captured particularly well the color of the occasion and hence are recorded as part of these proceedings.

ACCOUNT BY G. R. TOPPING

ANNOUNCER FOR THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

"I don't think that there has been in London in all the last decades such an assembly of high company of famous men as there is assembled here tonight in this wonderful old hall of the company of Drapers.

"Very many of Sir Winston Churchill's wartime associates, ministers and friends who have come over from America are here among the 200 guests. All are men at dinner tonight in this richly decorated, high-ceilinged, glittery hall, with its marbled pillars here in the heart of the city, a hall with shaded candles, and with a number of huge and magnificent portraits of past kings and queens looking down on all the diamonds. And what a company of diamonds!

"I can see the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Macmillan, the Lord Chancellor, Field Marshal Lord Alexander, Lord Montgomery, Lord Tedder, Lord Alanbrooke. There's the Lord Mayor of London and his sheriffs, there's General Gruenther, there's Mr. Aldrich, the United States ambassador in London, and Mr. Lewis Douglas, former American ambassador here. There are famous names everywhere. There I see Mr. Attlee, here on the day of his announcement of his retirement from the position of leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party. And to London for this ceremony have flown the entire eleven men of the Board of Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg.

"Williamsburg, the historic little city in Virginia, USA, is remarkable because in the last thirty years, and through the giving of sixty million dollars by Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., the old town has been reconstructed completely in eighteenth-century style. Full of fine Georgian houses, it stands today as a splendid period piece, in memory of the days when Williamsburg was the British Colonial capital of Virginia.

"Williamsburg today has the aspect of 200 years ago, down to the last detail: apothecaries, shops, bonnets, farthing-gales and all. If there are such things there as television sets, they are hidden and the aerial is up the chimney, inside. This Williamsburg is a shrine of British-American history and more particularly, it is a place which spoke for freedom and liberty. And from the Trustees of restored Colonial Williamsburg has come tonight this first Williamsburg Award to Sir Winston Churchill who has so greatly influenced the course of world events, as a fighter for liberty and freedom.

"The honorarium of the Award, a check for \$10,000 has been handed to Sir Winston and now tonight the symbol of the Award stands at the top table of this banquet. It is a replica in silver of an eighteenth-century town crier's bell – a bell such as called the colonial citizens to play their part in decisions of government. The bell of the Award was presented to Sir Winston by the Chairman of the Colonial Williamsburg Trustees, Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller, who is one of the sons of the city's benefactor, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

"The meal here draws to a close now and the scarlet-coated toastmaster is ready – he stands near to Sir Winston, who tonight over his evening dress is wearing the brilliant, kingfisher blue ribbons of the Order of the Garter. And now presently, after the loyal toasts, we shall hear Mr. Rockefeller's speech and Sir Winston Churchill's reply."

ACCOUNT BY HENRY S. HAYWOOD

CHIEF OF THE LONDON NEWS BUREAU OF THE CHRISTIAN
SCIENCE MONITOR

"London, December 8, 1955 – They gave him \$10,000 and a fine silver bell – a town crier's bell.

"They said it was a 'symbol of liberty' and so was he. He said: 'I shall ring it, I assure you, whenever I feel there is a duty to be done.'

"Then Sir Winston Churchill, heavy with honors, with the applause of British and American admirers ringing in his ears, walked out of the Colonial Williamsburg Award dinner in London Drapers' Hall, gently tolling his bell.

"He was like a small boy with a new and respected toy – yet round and puckish enough to be a genuine town crier, too.

"Nobody mentioned that it was December 7, the fourteenth anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack – scarcely a day for Allied rejoicing. Nobody mentioned that Colonial Williamsburg was once a British town, and that England and the young America had had some sharp disagreement in the area.

Operation Overlord

"Nobody, that is, but Sir Winston himself. He managed to span the gap by pointing out: 'I am by blood half-American, and on my mother's side I have the right to enjoy the early memories of Colonial Williamsburg as much as anyone here.'

"At the huge head table in historic Drapers' Hall, the military men of another conflict were much in evidence. Most of the famous names connected with Operation Overlord, the invasion of Europe in World War II, were there – Montgomery of Alamein, Alexander of Tunis, and Alanbrooke, Ironside, Ismay, Stark, Tedder.

"White ties glistened, and decorations gleamed in rows on chests, hung from necks, and even dangled from waists.

"The great political figures also were on hand to pay tribute to the fabulous man they never see enough of. Clement R. Attlee, newly resigned and with an earldom fresh upon him. 'Are you happy, and how do you feel?' Sir Winston asked his old political opponent – for Sir Winston, too, knows how it feels to step down after a long career.

Focus of Every Eye

"Foreign Secretary Harold Macmillan, back from Geneva and Baghdad, soon to go to Washington with the Prime Minister. Winthrop Rockefeller, speaking for the trustees of Colonial Williamsburg. Names from the long procession of Churchill history – names like Amery, Bracken, Cadogan, Gruenther, Halifax, Kemsley, Lennox-Boyd, Lloyd, Monckton, Salisbury, Samuel, Swinton, Sandys, Shawcross, Soames, Woolton.

"The roll call spanned all fields. It spanned Great Britain – and the Atlantic.

"And through it all, there was Sir Winston, without wishing it, the focus of every eye. He was rotund and pink-faced. The eyes were blue and the twinkle was there. So was the big blue sash of the Order of the Garter.

"He spoke well. The rolling is still at his command although the famed lisp is a little more pronounced. So is the humor, as he peers delightedly at his audience over the rims of his glasses to see if they savor his cunning jest.

"But he was not speaking for history or to the world on December 7. He did not rumble forth the stinging or passionate phrases that in the past so often have said all that could be said better than anyone else could say it.

"Almost visibly setting aside great world issues, he made it virtually a family party. That his 'family' stretches out to include even President Eisenhower, who sent a special message, is a measure of the scope of this man Churchill.

"He spoke of Anglo-American unity of thought and sentiment 'in this tragic century' as 'the most important thing in the world.'

" 'The horizons of life are dark and confused,' he said, 'but I think that most of us here have the sort of feeling that we shall not go far wrong if we keep together.'

Aura of Greatness

"He added that common American-British interests are growing stronger and 'will never be broken by force or the threat of force.'

"It simply doesn't matter where you hear Churchill – or what he says. The aura of greatness encircles the man. You may not understand why, but you cannot escape it when you get within range.

"And many came within range of him that night in lovely old Drapers' Hall in dark old London. Unannounced, he came into an anteroom, blinked, and sat down.

"Was he alert, approachable, cheerful? He was. Friends old and new filed up to exchange a greeting and a handshake. He knew them and had a word for each.

"After dinner and speeches, he again joined the throng in the anterooms. Clutching his silver bell and occasionally giving it a ring, he smiled around so benevolently at the assemblage that, toward the end, even this correspondent was sufficiently emboldened to go up, shake his hand, and wish him well.

"Soon afterward, he circled the room saying good-by. Then, still tinkling brightly, the venerable, colorful new-old bell-ringer went home."



These Proceedings of the Presentation of *The Williamsburg Award* by the Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg to the Rt. Hon. Sir Winston S. Churchill at Drapers' Hall, London, on December 7, 1955, were published in Williamsburg, Virginia on March 15, 1957.

The frontispiece photograph of the Town Crier's Bell is by Victor Keppler, New York. The color photograph of Sir Winston S. Churchill is by Karsh of Ottawa, under whose supervision all other photographs in color and in monochrome were taken.

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THE WILLIAMSBURG AWARD



SIR WINSTON S. CHURCHILL